IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (**Currently Amended**) A fixed type constant velocity joint ~~characterized by~~ comprising:

an outer joint member having axially extending guide grooves formed in ~~the~~ a spherical inner peripheral surface ~~thereof,~~ of the outer joint member;

an inner joint member having axially extending guide grooves formed in ~~the~~ a spherical outer peripheral surface ~~thereof,~~ of the inner joint member;

torque transmitting balls disposed ~~one-by-one~~ in corresponding ball tracks defined by ~~cooperation between~~ the guide grooves of the outer joint member cooperating with the guide grooves of the ~~and~~ inner joint member ~~members~~[[,]]; and

a cage holding the torque transmitting balls,

wherein ~~the~~ an angle (α) defined by a straight line connecting a contact point between the cage and the outer joint member and a contact point between the cage and the inner joint member, and the cage center line is in a range greater than zero degrees and not more than ~~10~~ ten degrees.

2. (**Currently Amended**) ~~A~~ The fixed type constant velocity joint as set forth in Claim 1, ~~characterized in that the number of~~ wherein the outer joint member and the inner joint member each have eight guide grooves ~~of the outer joint member is eight and so is the number of guide grooves of the inner joint member~~.

3. (**Withdrawn and Currently Amended**) ~~A~~ The fixed type constant velocity joint as set forth in Claim 1 or 2, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the guide grooves of the

outer joint member and the guide grooves of the inner joint member ~~members~~ are provided with straight sections having a straight groove bottom.

4. (**New**) The fixed type constant velocity joint according to Claim 1, wherein the angle (α) is in a range greater than eight degrees and not more than ten degrees.